

STUTTLER INDULGED IN STOCK DEALS

He Stoutly Denies the Charge of Blackmail.

THE HEARING IS CONTINUED

New Witnesses, Including Mrs. Robinson, Will Be Examined—Testimony in Detail.

The afternoon session yesterday of the District Commissioners' investigation into the new charge made against Warner Stutler, Superintendent of the Street Cleaning Department, by Royal Robinson, that Stutler had blackmailed the firm of Lilly & Robinson, while it was a contractor for street cleaning in the District, developed two important facts.

One was an admission from Stutler that since 1898, he engaged in at least four stock deals, one being with Robinson. The second development was Robinson's giving the Commissioners the names of five men, to whom he claimed to have communicated two or three years ago the fact that Stutler had used blackmail against Lilly and Robinson.

This led to the hearing being adjourned over until 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon, when some of the men named by Robinson will be called on to testify before the Board of Commissioners. It was also announced that the Commissioners would call on Robinson's wife for an affidavit to throw all light possible on Robinson's claim that Mrs. Robinson had seen the notes given to him for loans he had made to Stutler.

May Call Mrs. Robinson.

Robinson also said that he had mentioned to Mrs. Robinson the advisability of photographing a certain note before surrendering it to Stutler when Stutler asked for it. Mrs. Robinson's deposition will be obtained by means of a set of interrogatories which will be forwarded to her by the Commissioners and Stutler's counsel.

Robinson, shortly after the adjournment, in referring to his claim that Stutler had approached him for money for the West Virginia campaign fund, created some surprise by asking Stutler if he had not, shortly before Mr. West's appointment as District Commissioner, asked Commissioner Macfarland to take charge of the Street Cleaning Department instead of letting it go to the new Commissioner.

By this question he strove to show that Stutler had feared the defeat of Senator Elkins for re-election. Stutler and Commissioner Macfarland immediately denied that such a request had been made.

Stutler's Stout Denial.

Throughout the afternoon session, as in the morning, Stutler stoutly denied that he had ever borrowed any money from Robinson or from Lilly & Robinson as a firm. Robinson repeated his assertions that the money was loaned to Stutler by Lilly & Robinson without their having any intention of getting it back. He said he loaned the money in order to get fair treatment from Stutler as a street cleaning contractor.

The amount of the two loans to Stutler, he said, was \$500.

The men who will be summoned to testify before the Commissioners tomorrow are T. Conrad Dodge, Peter Bissett and Jefferson D. Young. By these, Robinson hopes to prove that he told them years ago that his firm was being blackmailed by Stutler. Inspectors of the Street Cleaning Department, mentioned by Robinson as having been told of the matter, will not be called at present.

It is now impossible to tell when the case will be considered. It will certainly last until the latter part of this week. It has lasted since the early part of last summer.

Cole Questions Robinson.

At the beginning of the afternoon session at 3 o'clock, Judge Cole continued his examination of Robinson, and asked him why, if he had never expected to collect the money loaned to Stutler, he had taken Stutler's notes for it.

"Merely as a matter of form, to save Mr. Stutler's feelings," said Robinson calmly.

"Didn't you know such a transaction was against the law?" asked Judge Cole.

"No, I did not."

"Didn't you mean this money to influence Mr. Stutler's official actions?"

"No, merely to insure us fair treatment from Mr. Stutler."

Judge Cole then questioned Robinson as to whether he possessed, or had tried to get into the hands of the Commissioners, letters from Lilly & Robinson regarding the loans to Stutler.

This brought an explanation from Commissioner Macfarland, who stated that he did not like the suggestion of anybody having employed indirect means to get Lilly's letters before the Board of Commissioners. He said Robinson had sent to a friend in Washington Lilly's letter saying Lilly had loaned Stutler \$500. This friend, said Mr. West, had given to him the Lilly letter, and the Commissioners had seen it.

Objects to Letter.

Judge Cole objected to the letter as competent evidence, but was told the Commissioners were not guided entirely by the strict rules of evidence.

Robinson here said he would be glad to give the names of several men to whom he had spoken a long time ago about the loan from Lilly, and Robinson to Stutler. The names were: T. Conrad Dodge, Jefferson D. Young, Inspectors Barnes and Beyer, of the Street Cleaning Department, and Capt. Charles C. Brown. Witness said he gave these names merely to prove that the blackmail charge was not trumped up at the eleventh hour in the investigation.

Stutler then took the stand, and, replying to Mr. Macfarland's questions, denied ever having requested a loan of money from Lilly, Robinson, the firm of Lilly & Robinson, or any representative of the firm. Witness also said he had never asked Robinson to contribute money for West Virginia campaign funds.

Stutler on Stand.

Stutler then explained that, in 1898, he told Robinson they could make some money on Reading Railroad stock. Robinson, he said, then "went in" with him and they made up a \$500 purse to buy the stock. Here witness explained in detail how his manipulation of railroad stock resulted in the loss of the \$500.

Lilly, he said, lent the \$300 to Robinson, who passed it over to Stutler. Witness, in reply to questions, could not say whether the money amounted to \$250 or \$300.

"Had you been engaged in these stock transactions?" asked Commissioner Macfarland.

"Yes, I first did it in 1898."

"Did you realize that it was a mistake to take money from a contractor in any way whatever?"

"I did not then. I do now see it was a mistake."

TAFT SAYS VERDICT IS MUCH TOO HARSH

Secretary of War Disagrees With Court-Martial in Lieut. Pruyn's Case—Writes to President.

Courts-martial come in for sharp criticism in a recommendation which Secretary Taft has submitted to the President advising the commutation of the sentence of dismissal imposed on Second Lieut. John McE. Pruyn, Fourteenth Infantry.

The Secretary of War advises that the young officer be punished by reducing 100 files in his grade and retaining \$40 of his monthly pay for six months.

Pruyn was charged with drunkenness and breaking quarantine, and was found guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. Secretary Taft says in his letter to the President that he does not believe sufficient was proven before the court-martial to justify dismissal.

Although the Secretary of War thinks the desire of the army to free itself of undesirable material is commendable, he does not think the army should be purified by dismissing men against whom charges have not been regularly proven.

West Takes a Hand.

Mr. West then took the witness and asked him if he had not said to him, the Commissioner, some days ago, that he, Stutler, had said something to Robinson "in a joking way" about contributing to the West Virginia campaign fund. Mr. West explained that his question was prompted by Stutler's emphatic denial to Mr. Macfarland of having ever said anything to Robinson about campaign funds at all.

Stutler hesitatingly admitted that he had told Mr. West about speaking jokingly to Robinson about the campaign money. He declared, however, that he had never demanded campaign money from Robinson.

Witness said Robinson's name did not appear in the stock transaction. The stock was bought in Peter Bissett's name, but the understanding that Robinson was to have his share of the profits if there were any.

Robinson finally took the witness, questioning him regarding the campaign fund matter. He asked Stutler if he had ever thought Senator Elkins would be defeated. Stutler said no.

"Why, then," asked Robinson, "did you tell me that, just prior to Commissioner West's appointment as Commissioner, you asked Commissioner Macfarland to take under his supervision the Street Cleaning Department instead of leaving it to the new Commissioner?"

This question brought forth a denial from both Stutler and Commissioner Macfarland. Neither could "recall" the request.

"Mr. Stutler," said Robinson, "could you have confused me with some one else in relation to this stock deal?"

"No, sir."

Being pressed, Stutler said he had on one occasion given one Peter Bissett, a gardener, information that led him to invest in Reading Railroad and other stock. Bissett lost money as a result.

Witness said his nephew, Homer Stutler, had once gone in with him to the extent of \$6 in a stock deal. Witness said he was unfortunate in a "sugar deal," he said.

Questions put to Robinson by Mr. West elicited the information that Robinson had never asked anybody to tell Mr. West about the alleged blackmail affair. Robinson said he had asked Mr. Dodge, Mr. West's informant, not to

BRAND-NEW EAGLE FOR WHITE HOUSE

New Bird Will Soon Be Perched on Top of the Flagstaff.

A new gilded eagle will stretch its protecting wings over the White House at an early date. The new bird will be finer and larger than the old eagle that has perched for so many years on the flagstaff over the main entrance. What is more to the point it will be more securely fastened.

Oddly enough there has been no eagle over the White House since President Roosevelt's election. The flagstaff ornament was blown off by a high wind on the day previous. It was replaced quickly, but the next day the same thing happened again.

No one about the White House is affected with superstitious ideas, but the recurrence of this incident naturally suggested to the officials in charge of the President's house that something was wrong with the bird, and it was decided to replace it with a brand-new one.

The figure is about one foot across the wings, and is of the usual type as exhibited on Government buildings.

tell the Commissioner anything about the money transactions.

The session yesterday morning was taken up entirely with the examination of Robinson by the District Commissioners and Judge Cole, of the firm of Cole & Donaldson, Stutler's attorneys, and by Commissioner Macfarland's reading the affidavits of Robinson and Stutler, affirming and denying, respectively the blackmail allegations.

The feature of the morning was Robinson's assertion that when he and Lilly loaned Stutler \$400, on one occasion and \$300 on another, they understood that they were being blackmailed, and gladly gave up their money, pleased that they did not have more to pay.

In Robinson's affidavit on the subject was the declaration that Stutler had approached them for a third loan, asking \$500, which they refused.

Stutler's affidavit denied that he had ever borrowed money from Lilly and Robinson, but said he and Robinson had talked about making up a fund, which they used for stock speculation.

Declares It False.

"Such an assertion is an absolute falsehood," said Robinson yesterday when asked about the transaction. "I have never in all my life engaged in transactions for myself or anybody else."

In explaining his submission to the blackmail, as alleged by him against Stutler, Robinson said that he and Lilly, the contractors for street cleaning, thought it was best to have the good will of the Superintendent of the Street Cleaning Department. When asked by Judge Cole why he had not placed the notes in a bank for collection, Robinson said he never expected to collect the money, because he regarded the loans as blackmail.

Judge Cole then asked him why he had destroyed, or given to Stutler, the unpaid notes. Robinson explained this by saying his refusal to give them up would have been taken as an insult by Stutler, and a consequent injury to the business of Robinson.

Robinson also said he did not then complain to the Commissioners because he did not have the evidence against Stutler that he now has. Also, he was afraid the Commissioners would believe Stutler in preference to him, thus injuring him on all sides.

Robinson, on saying his books might give some clue to the note transactions, although Stutler's name did not appear in the books, was told by Commissioner West to have the books sent to the Commissioners from Indianapolis. Robinson telegraphed for them late yesterday afternoon.

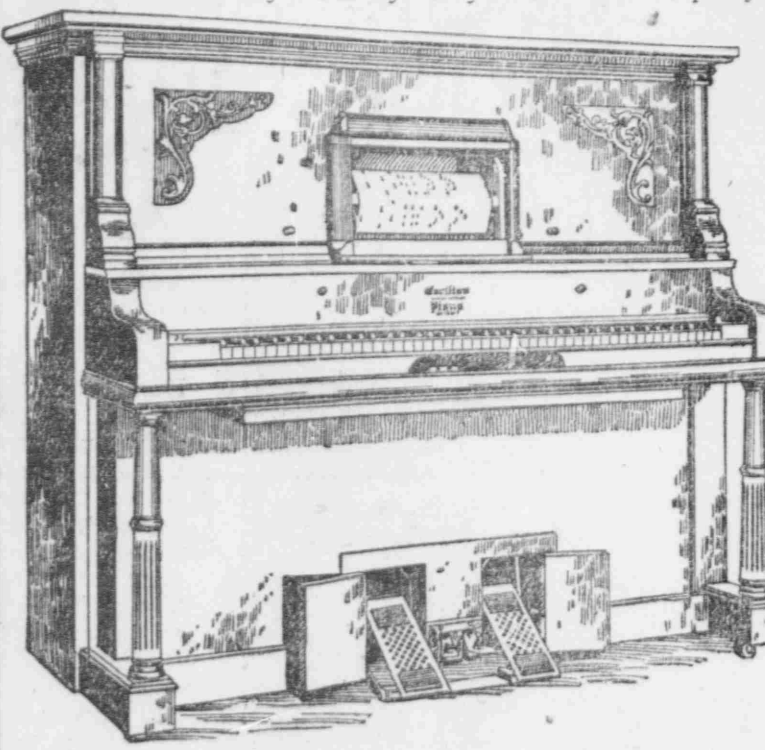
The Cecilian Self-Playing Piano!

An Opportunity For All.

There is an inherent love of music in all of us, almost without exception, and most of us have oftentimes earnestly wished we could not only have the pleasure of listening to music, but could make it for ourselves.

The Cecilian Piano makes it possible for this desire, common to most of us, to be completely gratified. The Cecilian Piano can be played by any one; its repertoire of music is practically unlimited; it is always ready for instant service; its operation is perfectly simple, and can be accomplished by any one, young or old, weak or strong.

On the other hand, if any of your family are studying music and desire to practice or simply wish to play the piano in the ordinary way, they can do so at any time. There is nothing to move out of the way. There is no change to be made. The Cecilian Piano is instantly and always ready for use in either capacity.



Our Invitation.

We have simply given you a brief outline or sketch of the Cecilian Piano. There are many valuable points which we could expatiate on, but what we want you to do is to see and try the instrument for yourself. We are perfectly satisfied to let the Cecilian Piano rest entirely upon its own merits, so sure are we that it is superior to anything else of the kind now on the market.

The Cost.

The price of the Cecilian Piano is \$600, and this amount can be distributed over a series of easy monthly payments if the purchaser desires.

E. DROOP & CO. 923-925 Pennsylvania Ave. STEINWAY AND OTHER PIANOS.



He's Here

A Grand "Opening" Tomorrow in Honor of Santa Claus.

The Palais Royal to Be in Holiday Attire.

Souvenirs That Will Be Heartily Appreciated.

There's the Christmas of poetry and the Christmas of prose.

What sweeter than the child's faith in Santa Claus?

What greater joy than the collecting of Christmas presents, even though Santa Claus may not be a reality to us?

Doesn't the worst old "Scrooge" among us find a tender spot in his heart as Christmas draws near?

How we all go a-hunting and what joy it is to find this for him and that for her, hurrying home to hide our treasures!

What crowds there'll be at the Palais Royal tomorrow!

Think of nearly one million Christmas presents to select from!



It's a Doll

The above sketch is from a photograph of one of The Palais Royal Dolls dressed in real children's clothes. This Doll, without the clothes—is to be one of the Souvenirs of Santa Claus' arrival. The price is to be

99c

This doll is truer to life than science or skill have ever before dreamed possible. Better than many live babies, this doll will not cry when it is washed or has its hair combed; it will go to sleep as soon as laid down, and when awakened its bright eyes, pearly teeth, and dimpled cheeks and chin always smile a welcome to its happy mother. Santa Claus and the Palais Royal are very, very proud of this doll, and invite all interested to its first public reception in the world. Tomorrow—in doll town—on second floor of the Palais Royal.

An Invitation

Nearly five hundred pairs of willing hands were busy until quite late last night, bringing out Santa Claus' treasures and displaying them so that selections may be made intelligently and pleasantly. You are invited tomorrow to the twenty-seventh Annual Holiday "Opening" and old friends and patrons will say the Palais Royal never looked so completely attractive before.

FREE

Articles selected for presentation will be suitably boxed. Laid aside for future delivery, on receipt of deposit.

FREE

Initials engraved on jewelry, silverware, umbrellas, and on all articles that can be engraved. Better work now than later.

FREE

Name in gold on card cases, pocketbooks, Bibles, prayer-books, and any article that can be stamped.

Souvenirs of the "Opening"

Practical Souvenirs—complimentary prices. The advantage of early selections must be patent to everybody. Combine less prices than will prevail later and it must seem positively foolish to delay. This page tells you of the regular prices and the souvenir prices, good for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, November 21, 22, and 23. Please note that this generous method of "opening" a new season originated with the Palais Royal, and has been since copied in word, but seldom in deed. The Palais Royal has long since earned your confidence, and the list of souvenirs will be read with all the oldtime confidence.

\$3 to \$100 Articles at 10% off
Choice of many thousands.

50c Articles are to be 42c
Choice of many thousands.

\$1 Articles are to be 89c
Choice of many thousands.

25c Articles are to be 19c
Choice of many thousands.

That's about how the "Souvenirs" of the "Opening" are offered. Note that in every department you will find a printed list giving the name of the article, its marked price, and the souvenir price. Ask any of the attendants for this comprehensive shopping guide. Below is given a list of departments, and where to find them.

First Floor

Umbrellas.
Art Needlework.
Handkerchiefs.
Neckwear.
Jewelry.
French Clocks.
Silverware.
Leather Goods.
Mirrors.
Laces.
Books.
Ribbons.
Underwear.
Gloves.
Notions.
Fans.
Toilet Articles.
Work Boxes.
Manicure Tools.

Raincoats.
Veilings.
Art Pieces.
Belts.
Lace Robes.
Stationery.
Hosiery.

Second Floor

Dolls.
Silks.
Trimmings.
Table Linens.
Flannels.

Dress Goods.
Lining.
Millinery.
Bedwear.

Third Floor

Suits.
Furs.
Skirts.
Dressing Sacques.
Bath Robes.
Negligé Garments.
Cotton Underwear.
Bridal Outfits.
Infants' Wear.
Children's Wear.

Wraps.
Waists.
Corsets.

Fourth Floor

Pictures.
Furniture.
Rugs.
Curtains.
Upholstery Goods.
Go-Carts.

Basement

Cut Glass.
Chinaware.
Parlor Clocks.
Cutlery.
Bric-a-brac.
Willowware.
Kitchen Needs.
Lamps.
Enameled Ware.
Beer Strips.
Bath Needs.
Hardware.
Heaters.
Canaries.
Bird Cages.
Confectionery.
Lunch Room.

Makers' Surplus

84c **\$2.98**

\$2 Waists **\$5 Waists**

These do not comprise the regular stock of Holiday Goods. They are here today and gone tomorrow. Think of choice All-wool Flannel Waists at 84c, and ultra fashionable Rich Silk and Filmy Wool Evening



Waists, elaborately trimmed, at only \$2.98. How long here?

Millinery

\$13 **\$10** **\$5** **\$2.48**

The Hats offered at \$13 bear the names and addresses of the leading Parisian Milliners. Those at \$10 are the finest specimens of New York's most famous milliners. Those at \$5 are termed "Pattern" Hats. Those at \$2.48 are best specimens of hats to wear with Tailor-made Suits.



\$1 Skirts, 59c

Exactly like the picture. Made of rich silk-like black material, with extra dust ruffle. Better than usual \$1 petticoats, for 59c.



25c **39c** **79c**

50c Garments **75c Garments** **\$1 Garments**

When nineteen cents will buy Ladies' and Children's Cozily Fleece Swiss Ribbed Union Suits—then is a lowest price of 1904 assured. So when high-class "Oneita" Suits are offered at 39c and the famous American Hosiery Company's best Underwear is only 79c for all sizes.

Note, too, that 19c buys warm Wool Stockings, best Black Maco Yarn Hose, with and without white feet, and Lisle Thread Hose, in plain and lace effects.

The Palais Royal

A. Lisner

G and Eleventh